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Profiles of Ethnic Communities in Canada

The Jamaican Community in Canada

2001

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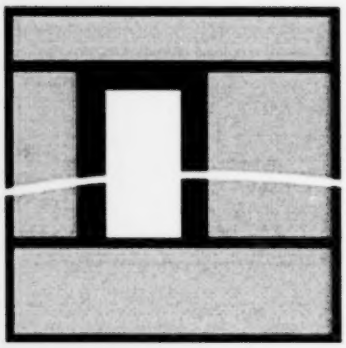

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The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0^s	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
^{p}	preliminary
^{r}	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
^{E}	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published

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Information on the series

This report was prepared by the Target Groups Project of Statistics Canada. This report is part of a series of profiles which will include profiles of the East Indian, Filipino, Haitian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Lebanese and Vietnamese communities in Canada, as well as profiles of Canadians of African, Arab, Caribbean, Latin American, South Asian and West Asian origins.

Ordering print copies

To order print copies of this profile or any of the other profiles in this series, contact the Multiculturalism Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage at 1-888-77MULTI 1-888-776-8584 or 819-953-1970. The report is also available free of charge on the Statistics Canada website at: http://www.statcan.ca

Questions or comments

For questions or comments about the content of this report, please contact Statistics Canada at 613-951-2603; fax 613-951-0387 or e-mail lindcol@statcan.ca.

Highlights

- Over half of Canadians of Jamaican origin were born outside of Canada. Of these, 84% arrived in Canada in the last thirty years.

- The majority of Canadians of Jamaican origin live in Toronto. Indeed, 71% of all Jamaicans living in Canada in 2001 resided in Toronto, where they made up 3% of the city's population.

- The Jamaican population in Canada is relatively young. In 2001, 45% of all those in the Jamaican community in Canada, compared with 33% of the overall population, was under the age of 25. In contrast, Canadians of Jamaican origin are only about half as likely as other Canadians to be seniors: 6% versus 12%.

- Virtually all Canadians of Jamaican origin report that English is their mother tongue.

- Only 34% of adults in the Jamaican community are married, compared with 50% of all Canadian adults. Canadians of Jamaican descent are also less likely than other Canadian adults to live in a common-law union, whereas they are more likely to be a lone parent. In fact, one in four women of Jamaican origin is a lone parent, versus one in 10 of all women in the overall population.

- People of Jamaican origin are less likely than their counterparts in the overall population to have a university degree. In 2001, just 10% of Jamaican adults were university graduates compared with 15% of all Canadian adults. At the same time, though, Canadians of Jamaican origin are more likely than those in the rest of the population to have completed a community college program.

- Canadians of Jamaican origin are more likely to be employed than other Canadians. In 2001, 68% of Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were employed, compared with 62% of adults in the overall Canadian population. At the same time, though, the unemployment rate among Jamaican labour force participants (8.6%) was somewhat higher than the national figure (7.4%) that year.

- The average income of Canadians of Jamaican origin is about $3500 lower than the national average.

- 34% of children of Jamaican origin live in families with incomes below the Low-income Cut-offs, compared with 19% of all children in Canada.

- 69% of senior women of Jamaican origin who live alone have incomes below the Low-income Cut-offs.

Introduction

This report describes the basic social and economic characteristics of people of the Jamaican community in Canada. It is part of a series of profiles of the country's major non-European ethnic groups.

The information in this profile is taken mostly from the 2001 Census of Canada, the most recent source of census data. Statistics Canada conducts the Census every five years. One in five households receives a long questionnaire that asks household residents to indicate the ethnic or cultural origins to which their ancestors belonged. This report is based on people who reported they had Jamaican origins. People are counted as being of Jamaican origin if they listed Jamaican as the only ethnic or cultural group of their ancestors or if they listed Jamaican along with other ethnic and cultural origins.

This publication also uses information from the Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS), which was conducted in 2002 by Statistics Canada in partnership with the Department of Canadian Heritage. The EDS surveyed more than 42,000 Canadians over the age of 15. The objectives of the EDS were to understand more about how people's backgrounds affect their participation in Canadian society, economy and culture, and how Canadians from different ethnic backgrounds report and describe their ethnicity.

Although the EDS and the Census provide very useful information, caution should be exercised in making direct comparisons between groups, particularly as they relate to causal implications, because the data have not been adjusted to take into account differences in age, education, length of time in Canada and other factors.

This profile is based on the Census population, which includes the following groups:

- Canadian citizens (by birth or by naturalization) and landed immigrants with a usual place of residence in Canada (including those who are abroad, either on a military base or attached to a diplomatic mission; or who are at sea or in port aboard merchant vessels under Canadian registry),
- Persons with a usual place of residence in Canada who are claiming refugee status and members of their families living with them,
- Persons with a usual place of residence in Canada who hold:
    - a student authorization (student visa or student permit);
    - an employment authorization; or
    - a Minister's permit (including extensions);
    - and members of their families living with them.

For the purpose of this profile, the term "Canadians" includes all persons with a usual place of residence in Canada, regardless of their citizenship status.

The Jamaican Community in Canada

A growing community

Canadians of Jamaican origin[1] make up one of the largest non-European ethnic groups in Canada. In 2001, the Jamaican community was the fourth largest non-European ethnic group in Canada after the Chinese, East Indian, and Filipino communities. That year, there were just over 210,000 people of Jamaican origin living in Canada. Together, they represented almost 1% of the total Canadian population.

Table 1
Selected ethnic groups in Canada, other than English, French and Canadian, 2001

	Total population	Multiple responses	Single responses	As a proportion of the total Canadian population
		thousands		percentage
Scottish	4,157.2	3,550.0	607.2	14.0
Irish	3,822.7	3,325.8	496.9	12.9
German	2,742.8	2,037.2	705.6	9.3
Italian	1,270.4	544.1	726.3	4.3
Chinese	1,094.7	158.4	936.2	3.7
Ukrainian	1,071.1	744.9	326.2	3.6
Dutch	923.3	607.1	316.2	3.1
Polish	817.1	556.7	260.4	2.8
East Indian	713.3	131.7	581.7	2.4
Filipino	249.1	34.7	214.4	1.0
Jamaican	**211.7**	**73.5**	**138.2**	**0.7**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

The Jamaican community in Canada is growing considerably faster than the overall population. Between 1996 and 2001, for example, the number of people who said they had Jamaican origins rose by 12%, whereas the overall population grew by only 4% in the same period.

The majority of Canadians of Jamaican origin say they have only one ethnic origin. In 2001, 65% of all those who reported Jamaican origins said they had only Jamaican roots, while 35% said they also had other ethnic origins. The share of the Jamaican population in Canada with multiple ethnic origins, though, is similar to that for the overall population, among which 40% reported multiple ethnic roots that year.

The majority are foreign-born

More than half of the Jamaican population living in Canada is foreign-born. In 2001, 53% of Canadians of Jamaican origin were born outside of Canada, compared with 18% of the overall population. Among foreign-born Canadians of Jamaican origin, 94% were born in the Caribbean.

1. All statistical information in this publication referring to Jamaicans, the Jamaican community, Canadians of Jamaican origin or people of Jamaican origin denotes people who reported Jamaican, either alone or in combination with other ethnic origins, in response to the question on ethnic origin in the 2001 Census or 2002 Ethnic Diversity Survey.

As well, the majority of immigrants of Jamaican origin living in Canada arrived here in the past three decades. Of foreign-born Jamaicans living in Canada in 2001, 34% reported that they had arrived here between 1971 and 1980, while another 24% said they arrived in the 1980s and 26% arrived between 1991 and 2001. In contrast, only 2% immigrants of Jamaican origin came to Canada before 1961.

Most live in Ontario

The large majority of Canadians of Jamaican origin live in Ontario. Indeed, in 2001, Ontario was home to 85% of the total Canadian population with Jamaican ethnic roots. At the same time, 5% of Jamaicans resided in Quebec, 4% lived in Alberta and 3% in British Columbia. That year, there were a total of 181,000 people with Jamaican origins living in Ontario, while almost 11,000 lived in Quebec, 8,000 lived in Alberta, and 7,000 made British Columbia home. Overall, Canadians of Jamaican origin represented about 2% of the total population of Ontario, whereas in all other provinces and territories, they made up less than half a per cent of the total population.

Table 2

The Jamaican population in Canada, by province and territory, 2001

	Total Jamaican population	The provincial/territorial population	As a proportion of the total Jamaican population in Canada
	thousands		percentage
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.1	0.0	0.1
Prince Edward Island	0.1	0.1	0.1
Nova Scotia	0.9	0.1	0.4
New Brunswick	0.3	0.0	0.1
Quebec	10.6	0.1	5.0
Ontario	180.8	1.6	85.4
Manitoba	3.4	0.3	1.6
Saskatchewan	0.9	0.1	0.4
Alberta	7.9	0.3	3.7
British Columbia	6.5	0.2	3.1
Yukon	0.1	0.3	0.0
Northwest Territories	0.1	0.1	0.0
Nunavut	0.0	0.0	0.0
Canada	**211.7**	**0.7**	**100.0**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

A substantial majority of Canadians of Jamaican origin live in Toronto. In 2001, 71% of all people in Canada who reported they had Jamaican ethnic origins lived in Toronto. That year, there were just over 150,000 people with Jamaican roots residing in Toronto where they made up 3% of the total metropolitan population. People of Jamaican origin also made up 1% of the total population of Ottawa that year, whereas in all other cities they represented less than 1% of the total population.

Age distribution

The Jamaican population in Canada is relatively young. In 2001, children under the age of 15 represented 29% of the Jamaican community, compared with 19% of the overall population. At

the same time, 16% of people of Jamaican origin, versus 13% of the overall population, were young adults aged 15 to 24.

Table 3
Age distribution of the Jamaican community and overall Canadian population, 2001

	Jamaican community			Total Canadian population		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
			percentage			
Age group						
Under 15	32.1	26.8	29.2	20.2	18.6	19.4
15 to 24	16.8	14.9	15.8	14.0	13.0	13.4
25 to 44	29.4	31.4	30.5	30.4	30.6	30.5
45 to 64	16.6	20.4	18.6	24.4	24.4	24.4
65 and over	4.9	6.5	5.8	10.9	13.4	12.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total population in thousands	**96.9**	**114.8**	**211.7**	**14,564.3**	**15,074.8**	**29,639.0**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

In contrast, Canadians of Jamaican origin are less likely than other Canadians to be either seniors or approaching retirement age. In 2001, seniors made up just 6% of the Jamaican community, compared with 12% of all Canadians. Similarly, 19% of the Jamaican community, versus 24% of the overall population, were aged 45 to 64.

More women than men

Women make up the majority of the Jamaican community in Canada. In 2001, 54.3% of the Jamaican community, compared with 50.9% of the overall population, were female. Like their counterparts in the overall population, women also make up a substantial majority of seniors of Jamaican origin. In 2001, 61% of people of Jamaican origin aged 65 and over were women, whereas the figure in the overall population was 56%.

Almost all can speak an official language

The vast majority of the Jamaican population in Canada can speak one or both of the country's official languages[2]. In 2001, 92% could carry on a conversation in English, while another 8% were bilingual and a small fraction could speak French only. In contrast, only a few hundred people with Jamaican roots were unable to converse in either English or French.

English is also the mother tongue[3] of almost all Canadians of Jamaican origin. In 2001, 99% of the Jamaican community said that their mother tongue was English. Another 1% reported that their mother tongue was French, while a very small fraction indicated that the language they first learned and still understand is a non-official language.

Similarly, almost all Canadians of Jamaican descent speak English most often in their homes. In 2001, English was the home language of 99% of the Jamaican population in Canada, while the remaining 1% spoke either French or another language most often at home.

2. English and French are recognized as Canada's official languages in the *Official Languages Act* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
3. A mother tongue is the language that a person learns first in childhood and that they still understand

As well, almost all employed people of Jamaican origin speak English on the job. In 2001, 98% of employed Jamaicans reported that they always spoke English on the job, while close to 1% spoke French only, and another 1% spoke English and French while at work.

Religion

A large majority of Jamaicans living in Canada report they belong to a Christian religious denomination. In 2001, just over half (52%) of all Jamaicans in Canada reported that they belonged to a mainline Protestant denomination, while 18% said they were Catholic and a further 12% said they belonged to another Christian grouping.

Canadians of Jamaican origin are also about as likely as those in the rest of the population to say they have no religious affiliation. In 2001, 16% reported that they had no religious affiliation, compared with 17% of the overall population.

Family status

Canadians of Jamaican origin are less likely than other Canadians to be married. In 2001, 34% of people of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were married, compared with about 50% of the overall adult Canadian population. Canadians of Jamaican origin are also less likely than other Canadians to live in a common-law relationship. That year, 7% were living common-law, compared with 10% of all Canadian adults.

Table 4
Family status of the Jamaican community and overall population aged 15 and over, by sex, 2001

	Jamaican community			Total Canadian population		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
	percentage					
Married	38.8	29.9	33.8	51.0	48.3	49.6
Living common-law	8.8	4.8	6.5	10.0	9.4	9.7
Lone parent	4.0	25.4	16.1	2.1	8.7	5.5
Child living at home	29.4	20.0	24.1	19.0	14.0	16.4
Living with relatives	3.2	5.3	4.4	1.9	2.6	2.3
Living with non-relatives	6.0	3.6	4.7	4.7	3.3	4.0
Living alone	9.9	10.9	10.4	11.3	13.7	12.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

At the same time, Canadians of Jamaican origin are considerably more likely than other Canadians to be lone parents. In 2001, 16% of those of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were lone parents, compared with 6% of adults in the overall population. As in the overall population, though, the large majority of Jamaican lone parents are women. That year, women represented 89% of lone parents of Jamaican descent, while the figure in the overall population was 81%. In fact, in 2001, 25% of all adult women of Jamaican origin were lone parents, compared with 10% of women in the overall population.

Canadian adults of Jamaican origin are less likely than other adults to live alone. In 2001, 10% of people of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over lived alone, compared with 13% of all adult Canadians. Seniors in the Jamaican community are also less likely to live alone than seniors in

the overall population. That year, 25% of people of Jamaican origin aged 65 and over lived alone, compared with 29% of all seniors in Canada.

In contrast, seniors in the Jamaican community are more likely than other seniors to live with members of their extended family. In 2001, 15% of Jamaican Canadians aged 65 and over lived with other relatives, such as the family of a son or daughter, compared with only 5% of all seniors in Canada.

Education

Canadians of Jamaican origin are less likely than people in the rest of the population to have a university degree. In 2001, 10% of Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over had either a bachelor's or post-graduate degree, compared with 15% of the overall adult population.

Table 5
Educational attainment of the Jamaican community and overall Canadian population aged 15 and over, by sex, 2001

	Jamaican community			Total Canadian population		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
	percentage					
Less than high school	32.9	25.7	28.9	31.4	31.1	31.3
High school graduate	14.6	11.4	12.8	13.1	15.1	14.1
Some postsecondary	13.9	13.5	13.7	10.7	11.0	10.8
Trades certificate/diploma	12.7	10.4	11.4	14.1	7.8	10.9
College graduate	15.0	25.6	21.0	12.5	17.3	15.0
University certificate/diploma below bachelor's degree	1.8	2.6	2.2	2.1	2.9	2.5
Bachelor's degree	6.8	7.8	7.4	10.6	10.6	10.6
Post-graduate degree	2.4	2.7	2.6	5.4	4.2	4.8
Total with university degree	9.2	10.6	10.0	16.0	14.9	15.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

At the same time, though, Canadians of Jamaican origin are more likely than those in the rest of the population to have completed a community college program. In 2001, 21% of people of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were college graduates, compared with 15% of adults in the overall population.

In contrast to the overall population, women of Jamaican origin have somewhat more education than their male counterparts. For example, 11% of women of Jamaican origin had a university degree in 2001, compared with 9% of their male counterparts. Similarly, 26% of women of Jamaican descent were college graduates, compared with 15% of men. In contrast, 33% of Jamaican men, versus 26% of women, had not completed high school.

Canadians of Jamaican origin represent a high proportion of those trained in the health professions and related technologies. They are also particularly likely to have degrees in the social sciences, as well as in commerce, management and business administration. On the other hand, relatively few Canadians of Jamaican origin have degrees in highly technical fields such as engineering and the applied sciences.

Young people of Jamaican origin are slightly more likely than other young Canadians to be attending school. In 2001, 60% of Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 to 24 were enrolled in a full-time educational program, compared with 57% of all Canadians in this age group.

As in the overall population, young women are more likely than young men to be enrolled in a full-time educational program. In 2001, 61% of young women of Jamaican origin aged 15 to 24 were in school full-time, compared with 58% of their male counterparts.

Employment

Canadians of Jamaican origin are more likely to be employed than other Canadians. In 2001, 68% of Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were employed, compared with 62% of adults in the overall Canadian population.

Table 6
Percentage of the population employed, by age group and sex, 2001

	Jamaican community			Total Canadian population		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
			percentage			
Age group						
15 to 24	47.2	51.6	49.4	56.1	55.6	55.9
25 to 44	85.5	78.9	81.8	85.6	75.2	80.3
45 to 64	81.2	75.0	77.5	74.8	60.8	67.7
65 and over	15.2	7.4	10.4	13.0	4.8	8.4
Total	**69.8**	**65.9**	**67.6**	**67.2**	**56.1**	**61.5**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

As with the overall population, men of Jamaican origin are more likely than women to be employed outside the home. In 2001, 70% of men of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were part of the paid workforce, compared with 66% of women of Jamaican origin. Women in the Jamaican community, though, are significantly more likely to be employed than women in the overall population. That year, 66% of women of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over were employed, compared with 56% of all adult women in Canada. Men of Jamaican descent were also more likely than their counterparts in the overall population to be employed, 70% versus 67%; however, the gap was not as wide as that among women.

Employed Canadians of Jamaican origin make up a high proportion of all those employed in health-related occupations. In 2001, 9% of workers of Jamaican origin were employed in this field, compared with 5% of workers in the overall population. A relatively large proportion of workers of Jamaican origin work in manufacturing. That year, 9% were employed in this sector, compared with 7% of the overall workforce. On the other hand, people of Jamaican origin represented a relatively low proportion of those employed in management positions and in professional occupations in the natural and applied sciences.

Canadians of Jamaican origin are also somewhat less likely than those in the overall workforce to be self-employed. In 2001, just 6% of the Jamaican labour force worked for themselves, compared with 12% of their counterparts in the overall population.

Unemployment

Labour force participants[4] of Jamaican origin are slightly more likely to be unemployed than labour force participants in the general population. In 2001, 8.6% of Jamaican labour force participants were unemployed, compared with 7.4% of those in the overall population.

As in the overall population, young people of Jamaican origin are more likely to be unemployed than older adults. In 2001, 19% of male Jamaican labour force participants aged 15 to 24 were unemployed, compared with 14% of all young Canadians males in this age category. At the same time, 17% of young female Jamaican labour force participants were unemployed, compared with 13% of their counterparts in the overall population.

Incomes

Canadians of Jamaican origin generally have lower incomes than the national average. In 2000,[5] the average income from all sources for Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over was $26,400, almost $3,500 less than the national figure.

As in the overall population, women of Jamaican origin generally have lower incomes than their male counterparts. In 2000, the average income for women of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over was $23,600, over $6,500 less than the average for men of Jamaican origin. However, the income gap between women and men of Jamaican origin is somewhat smaller than the income gap in the overall population. That year, the average incomes of women of Jamaican origin were 78% those of men of Jamaican origin, whereas in the overall population the figure was 62%.

Canadian seniors of Jamaican origin have relatively low incomes. In 2000, the average income from all sources for Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 65 and over was just over $21,000, over $3,000 less than the average income for all seniors.

Table 7
Average incomes of the Jamaican community and overall Canadian population, by age group and sex, 2000

	Jamaican community			Total Canadian population		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
			dollars			
Age group						
15 to 24	9,279	9,366	9,325	11,273	9,046	10,182
25 to 44	34,311	27,180	30,353	40,450	26,306	33,308
45 to 64	39,277	28,033	32,672	46,955	26,767	37,026
65 and over	25,640	18,230	21,129	30,775	19,461	24,437
Total	**30,087**	**23,575**	**26,412**	**36,865**	**22,885**	**29,769**

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.

As with all seniors in Canada, female seniors of Jamaican origin have lower incomes than their male counterparts. In 2000, the average income for women of Jamaican origin aged 65 and over was just over $18,000, compared with $25,600 for senior men of Jamaican origin.

4. Adults (aged 15 and over) who are employed or are looking for employment.
5. In the Census, people report their income for the previous year.

Canadians of Jamaican origin receive slightly more of their total income from earnings[6] than does the overall population. In 2000, Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over said that 84% of their income came from earnings, while the figure for all Canadian adults was 77%.

At the same time, Canadians of Jamaican origin receive about the same share of their total income from government transfer payments as do other Canadians. In 2000, 11% of the income of Canadians of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over came from government transfers, while the average for all Canadians was 12%.

Many with low incomes

On average, Canadians of Jamaican origin are more likely than their counterparts in the overall population to have incomes that fall below Statistics Canada's Low-income Cut-offs. In 2000, 26% of people in the Jamaican community in Canada lived in a household with an income below the Low-income Cut-offs, compared with 16% of the total Canadian population.

Children of Jamaican origin living in Canada are particularly likely to live in a low-income situation. In 2000, 34% of children of Jamaican origin under the age of 15 lived in a family with incomes below the Low-income Cut-offs, compared with 19% of all children in Canada.

Unattached adults of Jamaican origin are also somewhat more likely than their counterparts in the overall population to have low incomes. In 2000, 41% of unattached people of Jamaican origin aged 15 and over had low incomes, compared with 38% of those in the overall population.

Seniors of Jamaican origin who live alone are particularly likely to have low incomes. In 2000, 62% of unattached people of Jamaican origin aged 65 and over had incomes below the Low-income Cut-offs, compared with 40% of all unattached Canadian seniors.

Unattached female seniors of Jamaican origin are the most likely to have low incomes. In 2000, 69% Jamaican women aged 65 and over who lived alone had incomes below the Low-income Cut-offs, compared with 49% of unattached male seniors of Jamaican origin, and 43% of all unattached women aged 65 and over in Canada.

Most feel a sense of belonging to Canada

According to the Ethnic Diversity Survey, a substantial majority of Canadians of Jamaican origin feel a strong sense of belonging to Canada. In 2002, 81% of those who reported Jamaican origin said that they had a strong sense of belonging to Canada. At the same time, 71% said that they had a strong sense of belonging to their ethnic or cultural group.

At the same time, though, half of all Canadians of Jamaican origin report they have experienced discrimination. In 2002, 51% of Jamaicans living in Canada said they had experienced discrimination or unfair treatment based on their ethnicity, race, religion, language or accent in the past five years, or since they arrived in Canada. Of Jamaicans who indicated they had experienced discrimination, 69% said that the discrimination had occurred in the workplace or when applying for a job.

6. Earnings are total wages and salaries and net income from self-employment.

Summary table

	People of Jamaican origin			Total Canadian population		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Total population in thousands	**96.9**	**114.8**	**211.7**	**14,564.3**	**15,074.8**	**29,639.0**
Percentage change between 1996 and 2001	12.6	11.8	12.2	3.7	4.1	3.9
Percentage immigrant	49.1	56.4	53.1	18.0	18.7	18.4
Percentage with Canadian citizenship	86.4	87.4	87.0	94.9	94.5	94.7
Language						
Percentage able to speak English/French	99.9	100.0	100.0	98.8	98.2	98.4
Percentage speaking only non-official language at home	0.3	0.4	0.3	9.6	9.9	9.7
Age distribution						
Percentage aged less than 15	32.1	26.8	29.2	20.2	18.6	19.4
Percentage aged 25 to 44	29.4	31.4	30.5	30.4	30.6	30.5
Percentage aged 65 and over	4.9	6.5	5.8	10.9	13.4	12.2
Family status						
Percentage lone parents[1]	4.0	25.4	16.1	2.1	8.7	5.5
Percentage living alone[1]	9.9	10.9	10.4	11.3	13.7	12.5
Percentage seniors living alone	20.0	28.2	25.0	16.8	38.3	28.9
Education, employment and income						
Percentage with univeristy degree[1]	9.2	10.6	10.0	16.0	14.9	15.4
Percentage employed[1]	69.8	65.9	67.6	67.2	56.1	61.5
Unemployment rate	8.7	8.5	8.6	7.6	7.2	7.4
Percentage with low income	23.9	28.1	26.2	14.7	17.7	16.2

1. Includes people aged 15 and over.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada.